(e) what steps are being taken to keep proper circula.ing area and open spaces at entrance and exit at Suburban Railway Stations in Bombay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Kurla (West) — 35 Nos.
Kurla (East) — 1 No.
Mulund — 4 Nos.
Chembur — 1 No.
Vikhroli — 25 Nos.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Railways have initiated action for cancellation of licences and removal of shops which interfere with the smooth movement of passengers.

Completion of Mangalore-Udipi Section

2226. SHRJ SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the MANGALORE-UDIPI Section of the Konkan Railway has been completed and is likely to be opened traffic very soon ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) Work is nearing completion. The section will be opened during 92-93.

Road over-bridges at south of Ghatkopar Railway station in Bombay

2227. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Municipal Corporation of Greater Bombay had finalised and submitted a scheme for widening of the existing Road Over-Bridge South of Ghatkopar Railway Station in Bombay ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the proposed scheme of widening and reconstruction involves extension of bridge for providing additional future Railway tracks ;

(c) if so, whether it is a fact that the cost of the project would be shared by the Railways and the Municipal Corporation of Greater Bombay ;

(d) what is Government's response to this project ; and

(e) by when the work is expected to be started and completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) The original proposal for widening of Road over bridge at Ghatkopar was withdrawn by Bombay Municipal Corporation on account of its non feasibility. Instead the proposal for a new bridge was initiated. No progress could be made so far, because the requisite charges for Plans and Estimate have not been deposited with the Railways.

(b) to (e) The positon will crystalise only after the detailed survey and investigations, which will be undertaken after the necessary deposit by Bombay Municipal Corporation.

Railway agencics for sale of tickets

2228. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways provide agencies for sale of Railway Tickets to private individuals in some cities ; and

(b) if so, what is the procedure required to be followed by individuals to apply for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In some cities, depending upon traffic requirements, City Booking Agents are appointed on contract basis for sale of passenger tickets. the contracts are awarded to the most suitable candidate on merits by calling for competitive tenders through press advertisements.

Mass rapid transit system in Madras

2229. SHRI S.K.T. RAMA-CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the status of the project 'Mass Rapid Transit System' under execution in Madras ;

(b) by when the project is likely to be completed ;

(c) what was the yearwise allotment made for the project during the last three years and what is the allotment made for the current year and what is the cumulative expenditure so far incurred ; and

(d) what is the estimate of further requirements to complete the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) Madras Beach-Park Town section of the project has been completed and opened for traffic. Work on the balance length is likely to be completed by 1995, subject to availability of funds.

(c) (i)1989-90—Rs. 9.85 crores
1990-91—Rs. 11.10 crores
1991-92 Rs. 16.00 crores

(ii) 1992-93—Rs. 14.00 crores

(iii) Expenditure upto 31-3-92 is Rs. 69.15 crores.

(d) Further requirement of funds to complete the project would be known only after the revised estimate of the project is prepared.

Report of Comptroller and Auditor General for Western and Central Zone Railways

2230. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHADDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General, in his report for 1990-91, had indicted the Western and Central Zone Railways amongst other things, for disposing of scrap at prices much below the prevailing market prices ;

(b) if so, how far below the market rates the scrap of different types was sold, and what was the loss involved in the whole transaction ; and

(c) what steps have since been taken to prevent such practices in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Following measures already exist :

(i) Sale of scrap is conducted through public auctions or through open tender to the highest bidder.

(ii) Senior officers from Headquarter monitor rates realised in auctions in the nearby locations as also market trend of scrap rates etc.

(iii) Prior to auction, reserve price of various categories of scrap that are put up for auction is fixed keeping in view the recent auction prices and other information like